

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 11:30 a.m. tomorrow, and further, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 18, 2010, for morning-hour debate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

(Ms. WATSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of William "Bill" Elkins, Jr., who was born January 20, 1920, to William and Virginia Elkins. He, sadly, passed way on May 12 of this year.

Mr. Elkins was born and raised in Los Angeles, California, where he was known for his civility, loyalty, discretion, diplomacy, and dedication to civil rights. He was the right-hand man of the late Mayor Tom Bradley for 40 years—before, during, and after the mayor's four times in office—as the first African American to hold that high post and as the elected official who held it the longest to date.

Mr. Elkins met the future mayor while they attended Lafayette Middle School in South Los Angeles. Their friendship strengthened in subsequent years of study in college and work for the City of Los Angeles.

A graduate of Jefferson High School, young Bill Elkins left college to serve his country by enlisting in the Army and was assigned for 4 years to Italy during World War II. He returned to earn his bachelor's degree in political science at UCLA, where he and Tom Bradley pledged Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity together. He worked for the county as a probation officer and earned his juris doctorate from Southwestern University Law School, once again taking classes with LAPD Officer Tom Bradley, who was the best man at his wedding in 1945.

He then became the director of Teen Post. It was an inner-city after-school youth program. He rose to be the general counsel right next to our mayor, Tom Bradley.

He became the Mayor's point-man on affirmative action and was more responsible than any other single individual for remedying the exclusion of people of color and women from employment in responsible positions for the City of Los Angeles. He was also Mayor Bradley's liaison to Washington, DC, and was responsible for several citywide programs, including the city's Area Agency for Aging and multiple youth programs.

After Mayor Bradley left office, Elkins served on the board of the Thomas Spiegel Family Foundation as that philanthropy's vice president, until he retired a few years ago. Elkins

was also a member of Second Baptist Church for more than 70 years.

Mr. Elkins leaves to cherish his memory his wife Eleanor, to whom he was married for 65 years, their sons Bill and Larry, two grandchildren, and a host of family, friends and colleagues.

We honor Mr. Elkins today—a good and decent American whose deeds in life and record of public service deserve to be acknowledged and commemorated.

May God rest his soul.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I listened with great interest to the majority leader—the Democrat majority leader's comments about the accomplishments that have been made by this Congress. I would just like to say briefly this: the American people don't want to hear this hyperbole. They don't want to hear these long dissertations about what's being accomplished around here. What the American people want is to cut spending and to get this economy moving again and create jobs. And blowing money like the Democrats are doing and creating a debt that our kids will never be able to deal with is not the answer.

And so I'd like the next time that they have this discussion back and forth for 45 minutes that they cut to the chase and say, We're going to do this to cut spending. We're going to do this to create jobs. And we're going to cut taxes like Ronald Reagan did to get this economy moving again, instead of all this other stuff that's going on.

(Mr. ELLISON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I come to the House floor today to congratulate Palestinian Authority Chairman Mahmoud Abbas and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on their decision to start proximity talks. I believe the United States' national security interest is directly linked to the resolution of this long-standing conflict. I also believe that, like other seemingly intractable conflicts, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict can be resolved, especially with the active and even-handed leadership of the United States. Congratulations to President Obama and Envoy Mitchell, who got right to work on Middle East peace right after the President's inauguration and, despite huge hurdles, have both been persistent.

I hope the President continues to encourage all parties to negotiate seriously and in good faith and to move from proximity talks to direct negotiations to reach agreement on final and

permanent status issues. The world needs a secure Israel and it needs an independent, viable Palestinian state. However, simply declaring support for one side or the other does not really help either side. Both sides benefit from peace. We need to build a constituency for peace, and that means support for each side to make the necessary concessions.

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the new Supreme Court pick, Elena Kagan, has never been a judge. News reports say she doesn't have trial court experience as a lawyer. As a lawyer, she never questioned a witness or made an argument before a jury. She's never been a trial judge so she never had to make a constitutional ruling in the courtroom in the heat of trial. She's never heard a civil case. She's never heard a criminal case. She's never even heard a traffic case. She's never ruled on the rules of evidence like the exclusionary rule. She's never instructed a jury on reasonable doubt or sentenced a convicted criminal.

Why should Elena Kagan be confirmed to a lifetime appointment to the most powerful court in the world? She'd be judging trial lawyers and trial judges who've been through the mud and the blood and the beer of courtroom trials. A trial—maybe something she's never even seen. She's an academic elitist that's never tried a case. That's like putting someone in charge of the brain surgery unit that's never done an operation.

And that's just the way it is.

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, philately, or stamp collecting, is a hobby that teaches history, art, geography, and even heraldry. As stamps have branched out into film and iconic figures, there seems to be no limit to the subjects they cover, from Elvis to dinosaurs to Laurel and Hardy.

I rise today to honor Stamp Camp USA as it celebrates its 15th year in Elkland, Pennsylvania. The camp is the brainchild of Cheryl Edgcomb, who is the local postmaster in Nelson, Pennsylvania. Her camp introduces stamp collecting from basics, like sorting and handling, up to beginning exhibiting using both creative 3-dimensional and traditional formats.

As the children learn, they earn "stamp camp cash," which they use to purchase supplies for their hobby. There is a whole network of supporters of the camp, including 4-H, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, YMCA, YWCA, public libraries, Experience Works, AmeriCorps